

1 S.21

2 Introduced by Senator Perchlik

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Fish and Wildlife; posting land; notice; safety zones

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: The bill proposes to prohibit the  
7 discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of any occupied dwelling house,  
8 residence, or other building or camp occupied by human beings or any barn,  
9 stable, or other building used in connection with an occupied building.

10 An act relating to establishing safety zones around occupied buildings

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4710 is amended to read:

13 § 4710. SAFETY ZONE; SHOOTING PROHIBITED

14 (a)(1) ~~A person may on land owned or occupied by him or her and~~ Except  
15 as set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no person may discharge a  
16 firearm within 500 feet of any occupied dwelling house, residence, or other  
17 building or camp occupied by human beings; or any barn, stable, or other  
18 building used in connection therewith, ~~maintain posters furnished by the~~  
19 ~~Department of Fish and Wildlife not less than 12 inches wide and 18 inches~~

1 ~~high containing the words “safety zone, shooting prohibited.”~~ with occupied  
2 buildings.

3 (2) The prohibition under subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply  
4 to:

5 (A) a person discharging a firearm or taking wildlife on land that the  
6 person owns or occupies or for which the person holds written permission to  
7 discharge a firearm or take wildlife by the person who owns or controls the  
8 land; or

9 (B) a State, federal, or municipal law enforcement officer or  
10 employee when the law enforcement officer or employee is acting within the  
11 course of the officer’s or employee’s employment.

12 ~~(3) An area bounded by such posters placed at each corner, and not more~~  
13 ~~than 200 feet apart on the boundaries~~ The land within 500 feet of an occupied  
14 dwelling house, residence, or other building or camp occupied by human  
15 beings or any barn, stable, or other building used in connection with an  
16 occupied building shall be considered enclosed land for the purpose of this  
17 section and is hereby defined as a “safety zone.” ~~Without advance permission~~  
18 ~~of the owner or occupant, a person shall not discharge a firearm within or take~~  
19 ~~a wild animal that is within a “safety zone” as defined herein.~~

1           (b) Any person who violates a provision of this section shall be fined  
2           \$50.00.

3           Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.